



PRESS NOTICE

BILL NETTLES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

1441 Main Street, Suite 500 * Columbia, SC 29201 * (803) 929-3000

March 13, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON: BETH DRAKE
Beth.Drake@usdoj.gov
(803) 929-3000

FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that a Federal Grand Jury in Greenville, South Carolina, returned Indictment(s) against the following:

Roebuck Man Indicted for Possessing Child Pornography. Mark Anthony Soza, age 57, of Roebuck, South Carolina, was charged in a 1-count Indictment with possessing child pornography, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(5)(B). The maximum penalty Mark Anthony Soza could receive is ten years imprisonment. The case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) special agents and is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney William J. Watkins, Jr., of the Greenville office for prosecution. This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse.

Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

Spartanburg Resident Indicted for Failing to Register as a Sex

Offender. Phillip Stafford, age 21, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, was charged in a one-count Indictment with failure to register as a sex offender, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2250. The maximum penalty Stafford could receive, depending on his prior criminal history, is up to ten years imprisonment. The case was investigated by agents of the United States Marshals Service and is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Max Cauthen of the Greenville office for prosecution.

Foreign Nationals Charged with Illegal Re-entry. Santos Neftali Montes-Sevilla, Marvin Okeli Ramos Osario, and Humberto Teodoro Barajas were each charged in a one-count Indictment with illegal re-entry to the United States, a violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1326. The maximum penalty Osario and Barajas could receive, depending on their prior criminal history, is up to two years imprisonment; and the maximum penalty Montes-Sevilla could receive, depending on his prior criminal history, is up to twenty years imprisonment. The cases were investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) special agents and are assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Max Cauthen of the Greenville office for prosecution.

The United States Attorney stated that all charges in these Indictments are merely accusations and that all defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

#####